

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	EAS.43
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Smith, Capt. Heman House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	70 Old State Hwy
<b>City/Town:</b>	Eastham
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	
<b>Local No:</b>	22-009
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Federal; Greek Revival; Italianate
<b>Use(s):</b>	Boarding House; Other Recreational; Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture; Commerce; Recreation
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Wall: Wood Clapboard; Wood Foundation: Stone, Cut



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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FORM B - BUILDING

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Building  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's  
Number

22/009

USGS Quad

Orleans

Area(s)

Form Number

43

Town

Eastham

neighborhood or village)

70 Old State Highway

c Name

Present Residential

Original "

Construction

See Bibliography\*

Form Federal/Italianate

ect/Builder

r Material:

Foundation

Cut Stone

Wall/Trim

Clapboards

Roof Undetermined (not visible from ground level).

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures  
Free-standing, 1-bay, New England Barn,  
and Free-standing Cottage.

Major Alterations (with dates)  
(see Architectural Description)

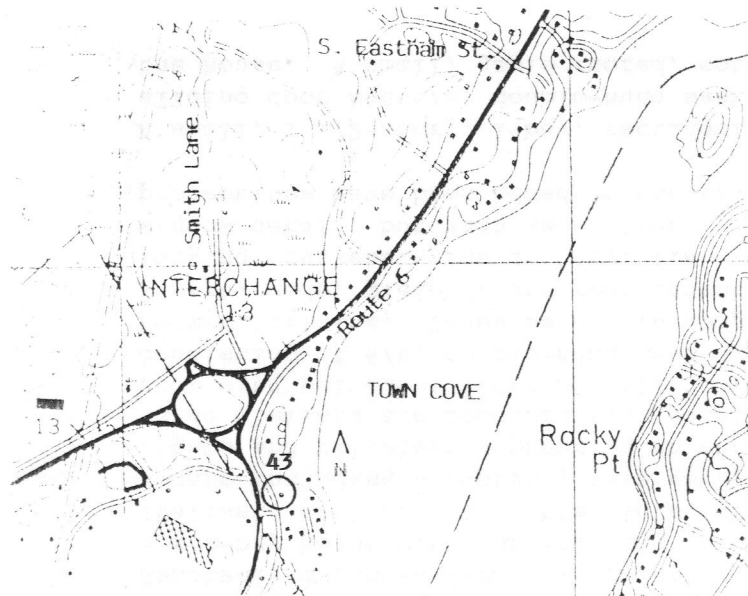
Condition Good

Moved X no \_\_\_ yes Date

Acreage .75 acres

Setting Located in a densely-settled,  
mixed-use, but largely residential section  
just off the rotary on Route 6, the major,  
Cape Cod, inter-community thoroughfare,  
the former county road and a continuation  
of the original Old King's Highway.

here. Indicate North.



Recorded by: Dianne L. Siergiej

Organization: Commonweal Collaborative

Date: May 1995

RECEIVED

SEP 20 1995

MASS. HIST. COM.

## BUILDING FORM

70 Old State Highway

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION      See continuation sheet.

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

Reputedly expanded from a 1 1/2-story dwelling, this 2-story, rectangular, 5 x 2-bay house with lateral wing seems to combine the Federal with the Italiante styling. A double, interior chimney plan with 5-bay, symmetrical facade including a central, main entry of 6-panel, wooden door with full side lights and pilasters supporting an entablature have been retained. These elements are combined with paneled pilasters, a low-pitched, nearly flat roof with belvedere sided by tall, corbeled-cap chimneys. Fenestration consisting of 6/6, double-hung sash with cap molding also reflects Federal origins. Eaves detail is comprised of boxed, molded cornice and 2 part, wide, plain frieze reminiscent of the Greek Revival and lacking brackets. The 1-story, flat-roofed, lateral wing displays similar window detail, but sash is smaller. Two, modern, 1-story, flat-roofed projections have been added to the rear (east) elevation of the side ell.

A small, 1 1/2-story, 1-bay, rectangular, shingled, New England barn with sliding door and 6/6, double-hung sash in the gable stands southeast of the house. A small, gable-roofed, cottage is located east of the barn.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE   X   See continuation sheet.

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Heman Smith (b. March 26, 1821), son of Myrick (b. 1785?; d. December 12, 1870) and Sally Smith (d. December 12, 1870, daughter of Francis Crosby), inherited a dwelling and other outbuildings on 5 acres of land from his father. That residence (not extant) may have been located 200 feet to the south. The will (Docket No. 5738-20-57; Bk. 113; P. 2), for which Heman acted as executor, provided that his mother retain use of all the property, real and personal throughout the remainder of her life.

Local historian, Howard Quinn, indicates Heman Smith expanded a 1 1/2-story house into this 2-story structure in the early 1860's. Heman Smith married Louisana Crosby on November 27, 1845. They had 5 children: Mary Minerva Smith (b. July 12, 1848); Francis M. Smith (b. July 16, 1852); William Harding Smith (b. October 20, 1853); Bunilda Smith (b. September 26, 1855) and John Waterman Smith (b. February 11, 1864).

Heman Smith was a sea captain and master of the bark *Burnside*. While transporting grain to Italy on an expected last voyage before retirement, he, along with his wife, Louisana, and two of his children were lost at sea.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES   X   See continuation sheet.

  X   Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;  
If checked, see attached National Register Criteria Statement form.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

In 1881, William H. Smith of Boston, Mary M. Smith and Nellie I. Smith, formerly of Eastham, the surviving children and heirs of Heman Smith sold the property to their sibling, Francis M. Smith (b. 1852). He was a harness maker and, indicative of the growing vacation/recreation industry on the Cape, beginning in 1886 also kept summer boarders. He married Mary A. Lincoln, daughter of Hinkley Lincoln (see 475 State Highway, Form No. 10) They had two children: William M. Smith and Ivan G. Smith, but only the latter survived.

Francis and Mary A. (Lincoln) Smith owned the property until 1898 when it was purchased by George A. (variously also listed as George E. or George G.) Newcomb, a farmer who also used the property as a summer boarding house.

Newcomb sold to Albert Sherman in 1913. Over the remainder of the twentieth century, the property changed tenure relatively frequently: Albert F. Sherman, 1913-1916; Frederick D. Suydam, 1916-1924; Gilbert E. Ellis, 1924-1926; Roscoe S. and Emma G. Walton, 1926-1934?/1936?; Sylvia Adamson and Nettie H. Wiley, 1936-1959; Francis and Kathleen Van Buskirk, 1959; Rudolph and Naomi Westerman, 1959-1973; Ruth M. McLeod, 1973-1980; Donald and Elizabeth Williams, 1980-1981; Evelyn Buckley, 1981-1990 and John J. McHugh post 1990 to date.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Deyo, Simeon L. ed., History of Barnstable County, Massachusetts, 1620-1890, (New York: H. W. Blake, 1890) p. 745.

Hales, John G. Map of the Town of Eastham, 1830.

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Lowe, Alice Alberta, Nauset of Cape Cod: A History of Eastham, (Falmouth: Eastham Historical Society, 1968), p. 143.

\*Quinn, Howard. Transcript of Oral History Tape, Eastham Historical Society Archives.

Resident and Business Directory of Cape Cod, 1901.

Roger, Josiah, Knowles, Elijah and Kinsman, Simeon. Map of the Town of Eastham, 1794.

\*Walker, George F. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston: George F. Walker & Co., 1880.

\_\_\_\_\_. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston Walker Lithographer and Publishing Co., 1908.

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Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Building  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community: Eastham  
Property Address: 70 Old State Highway

Area Form No. 43

**National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement**

Check all that apply:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individually eligible              | <input type="checkbox"/> Eligible <u>only</u> in a historic district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing to a potential historic district | <input type="checkbox"/> Potential historic district                 |

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by: Dianne L. Siergiej  
*The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.*

The property at 70 Old State Highway is significant on a local level with regard to the above-referenced criteria as a rare example of an exceptional, grand house in a community of small dwellings and as an unusual combination of Federal/Italianate detail. It is also significant for its associations with Captain Heman Smith, mariner and his son, Francis M. Smith, who operated the house as a summer boarding house indicative of the developing tourist trade in Eastham in the late nineteenth century.



EAS.43

Original yellow form: Eligibility file \_\_\_\_\_  
Copies: Inventory form ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Town file(w/corresp.) \_\_\_\_\_  
Macris \_\_\_\_\_  
NR director \_\_\_\_\_

Community: Eastham

**MHC OPINION: ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL REGISTER**

Date Received: 10/16/95

Date Due:

Date Reviewed: 12/6/95

Type: ☒ Individual

☐ District (Attach map indicating boundaries)

Name:

Inventory Form: EAS.43

Address: 70 Old State Highway

Requested by: Eastham Historical Commission

Action: ☒ Honor ☐ ITC ☐ Grant ☐ R & C ☐ Other:

Agency:

Staff in charge of Review: TA

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES**

☐ Eligible  
☐ Eligible, also in district  
☐ Eligible only in district  
☐ Ineligible  
☒ More information needed

**DISTRICTS**

☐ Eligible  
☐ Ineligible  
☐ More information needed

CRITERIA: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

LEVEL: ☐ Local ☐ State ☐ National

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE by Terry Adams

70 Old State Highway is a two-story, 5-bay, double-pile house with a low-slope roof, an octagonal cupola, and one-story, flat-roofed lateral wing. Purportedly built as a 1 1/2-story dwelling, the house was expanded in the 1860s to its current scale, which is atypically grand for Eastham. The house displays an unusual combination of Federal-style and Italianate architectural features and meets Criterion C at the local level. The property is associated with Heman Smith, a sea captain, and with his son, Francis M. Smith, who operated the property as one of the area's earliest boarding houses in the late 19th century; more information about these associations would be required in order to justify the property's eligibility under Criterion A.